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Appendix 5

Captured Japanese Aerial Photography

1. The dates on the Captured Japanese Aerial Photography available through the Central Film Library, Air AG, are confined to the early 1930's. It seemed improbable that the Japanese had no other reconnaissance photography taken during the 1940's over China, Manchuria and eastern Siberia. Persistent questioning of agencies that should know revealed no trace of later photography in the Washington area. It did reveal a widespread feeling that there must be some in existence. Inquiry with persons recently returned from Japan revealed that the photography does exist and that it is being used by several units operating with the Occupation Forces but no one knew exactly who was holding the material, its date and extent. 25X1A9a

2. A conference was held with [REDACTED] relative to the importance of retrieving this photography for use by CIA and other interested agencies in Washington. The decision was reached that it was strongly advisable that [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

25X1A6a [REDACTED] It would be highly beneficial, particularly to CIA, to have [REDACTED] locate and determine the scope of this potent source of information from an area where we are so lacking in direct evidence. GR/OCD has been made aware of our interest in these photographs and the advisability of [REDACTED] investigating the situation for CIA. 25X1A9a

USAF Declass/Release Instructions On File

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3. A second set of conferences were arranged by [REDACTED]

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with personnel in SO. First contact was made with [REDACTED] who passed me on to [REDACTED] with whom I discussed the need for the photography and possibility of it being in Japan. He was most cooperative and understanding. At his suggestion, we visited Col. _____, recently associated with G-2, FECOM. The Colonel knew definitely that the photography is being used in FECOM and FE/P among others in Japan and that everyone supposed that a set of prints from the negatives had been shipped to Washington. [REDACTED]

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4. It is hoped that the combined efforts of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] will make available sufficient information about the Captured Japanese Aerial Photography so appropriate action may be initiated by OCD to bring to Washington the required prints or duplicate negatives at the earliest possible date. In case there is a large mass of material such as was the case in Germany it might be expedient to have copies of the plot maps flown to Washington so the Graphic Research Coordination Group can establish priority for the duplication in the field of the various areas covered.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

On the basis of my brief study of the situation in CIA, I make the following recommendations:

1. That OHR have on its staff a skilled photo interpreter fully aware of the photo intelligence potential of the material now available to OHR, OGI, and OSI analysts. For this position, I recommend to you without reservation [REDACTED]

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2. That it would be most useful to the analysts in OHR and other offices of CIA to have available a small team of photo interpreters with the standard P.I. equipment to work directly with the analysts at their desks. Such a group could be slowly accumulated as the appropriate persons are located. At this time it seems that not more than three photo interpreters are needed. I/Air could effectively use a photo interpreter continuously for about four months at this time. I am sure other units could do likewise.

If areas now closed to us are opened, there will be a much greater need and the suggested three might well serve as a pilot operation to work out the techniques of coordinating intelligence on an all-source basis. Such a group of interpreters should have a close liaison with Graphics Register, OGD, where much of the material is available and unused.

3. That the current aerial photography over North Korea be utilized for OHR evaluation of the economic potential of that area by the employment of selected Army and Air Force Photo Interpretation Teams, Reserve, as an external research project.

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2 April 52

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Accompanied by [REDACTED] of the Graphics Register, I

(1. Apr.)

spent the morning with the Photo Interpretation Unit of the Reconnaissance Branch, Director/ate of Intelligence, US Air Force. There I discussed the CIA requirements for photo interpretation with Colonel Setchel, Major Mayuga, and Mr. Tate. This organization is eager to continue

supplying routine or special photo interpretation reports to CIA. *a statement of what the photo interpreter sees on the photograph without benefit of other information.*

These reports are just that--photo interpretation--they do not propose to be photo intelligence reports *a synthesis of photo-interpretation and other intelligence with the latter where collateral material forms a*

considerable part of the final product. At present the high Air

Force priority projects are increasing in number to such an extent

that it is quite possible that in the near future this Unit will be

unable to supply CIA with prompt service. Their *T/O* has been frozen,

and it appears unlikely that they will be allowed *additional additional* further personnel.

The US Army has assisted them by detailing to the Unit two Army PI's

to assist in the general work of interpretation, and thus relieve

some of the pressure due to Army requirements. I believe that a simi-

lar arrangement whereby either actual photo interpretations *etc* belonging

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to CIA are detached for duty with this Unit, or CIA funds allotted to the Unit to pay for additional photo interpreters would enhance our relationships with the photo interpreters in the Director^{ate}/of Intelligence, Air Force. ^{JP} During the discussions it was brought out that at present the flow of material from FEAF is so great, and Air Force interest in it so little, that nothing is being done with this photography, much of it covering strategic installations in the northern part of North Korea and possibly, at times, showing areas outside the boundaries of that country. At present all of material, this/not worked and with the accompanying reports not distributed, being is/stored in the Pentagon under the care of the Air Adjutant General, where it is held for ninety days. At the end of that time, this valuable source of information is destroyed. It may be that a scanning of the material by GR/CD might yeild to CIA important information.

Probably the most disastrous news learned this morning is that ~~the~~ SAC is urging the return to continental United States of the

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three RB-45's, the only aircraft in FEAF capable of adequate penetration of those areas within the Soviet sphere of interest to us. The PI Unit that I visited is registering a non-concurrence for the return of these aircraft, and I am sure that the same action should be taken by CIA. It is through the employment of these aircraft that the interesting photography of Sakhalin was procured. Without these aircraft in the field, it would be impossible to follow these developments and to search out others. For this purpose alone, I believe it worthwhile to recommend holding the aircraft in the FEAF area.

~~The afternoon of 1 April~~ I spent practically the entire afternoon discussing the proper utilization of aerial photos of any vintage with the six or seven analysts in I/Air. These young gentlemen are fully aware of the potential that lies in aerial photography. They are using all available photo interpretation reports ^{and} ~~in~~ the valuable photography accompanying these reports. They badly need

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a training that could be done on the job which would make it possible for them to get more information from the photographs and to more intelligently use the photographs in conjunction with correlary information from other sources. Mr. Deverall is fully cognizant of the importance of aerial photographs as intelligence documents, and I am sure would favor any action that would increase the efficiency of his staff or make available to them skilled assistance in utilizing aerial photographs of all vintages.

What was the problem?

How did you help?

No error?

good example for final report?

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